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The SPEECH *of* JOHN WILKES, *esquire, lord mayor of* LONDON, *in the* HOUSE *of* COMMONS, *on lord* NORTH'S *motion for an address to his* MAJESTY *against the* AMERICANS.

MR. SPEAKER,

THE buſineſs now before the houſe, reſpecting America, is of as great importance as was ever debated in parliament. It comprehends almoſt every queſtion relative to the common rights of mankind, almoſt every queſtion of policy and legiſlation. I do not mean to enter into ſo vaſt, ſo well trodden a field; I will confine myſelf to the buſineſs before us. The addreſs now reported from the committee of the whole houſe appears to me unfounded, raſh, and ſanguinary, and moſt unjuſtly to draw the ſword againſt America; but before adminiſtration are ſuffered to plunge this nation in the horrors of a civil war, before they are permitted to force Engliſhmen to ſheath their ſwords in the bowels of their fellow ſubjects, I hope this houſe will ſeriouſly weigh the original ground and cauſe of this unhappy diſpute, and, in time, reflect whether juſtice is on our ſide. The right of *taxation*, aſſumed *without the conſent of the ſubject*, is plainly the primary cauſe of the preſent quarrel. Have we, ſir, any right to tax the Americans? That is the queſtion. The fundamental laws of human nature, and the principles of the Engliſh conſtitution, are equally repugnant to the claim. The very idea of property excludes the right of another's taking any thing from me without my conſent, otherwiſe I cannot call it my own. What property have I in what another perſon can ſeize at his pleaſure? If we can tax the Americans without their conſent, they have no property, nothing which they can call their own, we might take their all. The words LIBERTY and PROPERTY, ſo dear to an Engliſhman, ſo pleaſing to our ears, would become mockery and inſult to an American.

The laws of ſociety are profeſſedly calculated to ſecure the property of each individual, of every ſubject of the ſtate. The great principles of the conſtitution, under which we live, likewiſe clearly determine this point. All ſubſidies to the crown are grants from the commons, free gifts from the people. Their full conſent is always expreſſed in the grant. Much has been ſaid of the palatinate of Cheſter and the principality of Wales, and the period of their taxation; but, ſir, there is a more remarkable caſe in point, which alone would determine the queſtion. If gentlemen will ſearch the records in the Tower, they will find that the town of Calais, in France, when it belonged to the imperial crown of theſe realms, was not taxed till it ſent repreſentatives to parliament. Two burgeſſes from Calais actually ſat and voted in this houſe. Then, and not till then, was Calais taxed. The writ out of chancery, and the return to it, in the reign of Edward VI. with the names of the burgeſſes, are ſtill extent. I faithfully gave them to the public from atteſted copies.

But, ſir, it will be ſaid, is America then to enjoy the protection of Great Britain, and to contribute nothing towards the ſupport of that very ſtate, which has ſo long given it protection and ſecurity, which has nurſed it up to its preſent greatneſs? The Americans themſelves have given the fulleſt anſwer to this objection, in a manner not to be controverted, by their conduct through a long ſeries of years, and by the moſt explicit declarations. Equally in words and actions, of the moſt unequivocal nature, they have demonſtrated their love, their ardour, and their ſtrong filial piety, towards their mother country. They have always appeared ready, not only to contribute towards the expences of their own government, but likewiſe to the wants and the neceſſities of this ſtate, although perhaps they may not be over fond of all the proud, expenſive trappings, of royalty. In the two laſt wars they far exceeded the cold line of prudence: With the moſt liberal hearts, they gave you almoſt their all; and they fought gallantly by your ſide, with equal valour, againſt our and their enemy, againſt the common enemy to mankind, the ambitious and faithleſs French, whom we now fear and flatter. Our journals, ſir, will bear witneſs to the grateful ſenſe we had of the important ſervices of the Americans, and the great ſums we voted to be repaid them for what they expended in the ſpirited expeditions, which they carried through with equal courage and conduct, ſometimes without the leaſt knowledge or participation on our part, will demonſtrate the warm affection of their hearts to this country.

But, ſir, the whole was the gift of freemen, of fellow ſubjects, who feel that they are, and know that they have a right to be, as free as ourſelves. What is their language now, when you are planning their deſtruction, when you are declaring them rebels? In the late petition of the general congreſs to the king they declare, "they are ready and willing, as they ever have been, when conſtitutionally required, to demonſtrate their loyalty to his majeſty, by exerting their moſt ſtrenuous efforts in granting ſupplies and raiſing forces." This is the unanimous reſolution of a congreſs compoſed of deputies from the ſeveral colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſetts Bay, Rhode Iſland, and Providence plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, the counties of Newcaſtle, Kent, and Suſſex, on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and the two Carolinas.

I have heard, ſir, of a plan of accommodation, which, I believe, would reconcile all differences; but, alas! ſir, it does not come from any ſervant of the crown; it comes from the noble lord, to whom this country has the moſt eſſential obligations, and is ſo much indebted for its late ſplendour and glory: It is to aſſemble another congreſs in the ſpring, under the authority of the parliament of Great Britain, the deputies of the ſeveral colonies to meet together, and to be jointly empowered to regulate the various quotas to be paid by each province to the general treaſury of the whole empire. I would, in addition to that plan, propoſe that a regulation, ſimilar to what actually takes place with reſpect to Scotland, be adopted as to America. The proportion of each colony might be ſettled according to the land tax in England, at one, two, or more ſhillings, in the pound. I am not deep politician enough to know what the proportions ſhould be of each province, and they will vary greatly in half a century, but I ſpeak of their quota being always to be regulated according to the land tax of this country. The very flouriſhing colonies of the Maſſachuſetts Bay, Virginia, and South Carolina, for inſtance, ſhould contribute more, the ſmaller and poorer colonies of New Hampſhire and New Jerſey leſs; but, ſir, I inſiſt not a ſingle ſhilling can be taken without their conſent. And after this day's debate, ſhould the addreſs be carried, I greatly fear every idea of a reconciliation will be utterly impracticable.

The Americans, ſir, have of late, both within doors and without, been treated with the greateſt injuſtice, and even a wanton degree of cruelty. An honourable gentleman has juſt told us that they complain of the *navigation act*, and inſiſt on its repeal. We have authentic evidence to the contrary. In the reſolutions of the congreſs they repeatedly deſire to be put only on the footing they were *at the cloſe of the late war*, "as to the ſyſtem of ſtatutes and regulations;" nor among the various acts, of which they deſire the repeal, do they once mention either the *navigation* or the *declaratory act*. It is ſaid likewiſe, they wiſh to throw off the ſupremacy of this country.

Many expreſs reſolutions, both of the general congreſs and the provincial congreſſes, are the fulleſt evidence of the ſenſe which the Americans entertain of their obedience and duty to this country. They are too numerous to be quoted. Their full claim, as ſtated by themſelves, is ſo well worded, that I beg to read it to the houſe, from their petition to the king: "We aſk but for peace, liberty, "and ſafety." Surely, ſir, no requeſt was ever more reaſonable, no claim better founded. "We aſk not a diminution of the prerogative, nor do we ſolicit a "grant of any new right in our favour. Your royal prerogative over us, and our "connection with Great Britain, we ſhall always carefully and zealouſly en- "deavour to ſupport and maintain," while adminiſtration are endeavouring to tear aſunder thoſe ties which have ſo long and happily bound us together.

The addreſs, ſir, mentions the particular province of Maſſachuſetts Bay as in a ſtate of actual rebellion, and the other provinces are conſidered as aiding and abetting them. Much has been ſaid, by ſome learned gentlemen, to involve them in all the conſequences of a declared rebelliion, and to encourage our officers and troops to act againſt them as againſt rebels. Whether their preſent ſtate is that of rebellion, or of a juſt and proper reſiſtance to unlawful acts of power, to our attempts to rob them of their property and liberties, as they imagine, I do not determine. This I know, a ſucceſsful reſiſtance is a revolution, not a rebellion. Who can tell, ſir, whether, in conſequence of this very day's violent and mad addreſs to his majeſty, the ſcabbard may not be thrown away by them as well as by us? And ſhould ſucceſs attend them, whether, in a few years, the Americans may not celebrate the glorious æra of the revolution in 1775 as we do that of 1688? Succeſs crowned the generous efforts of our forefathers for freedom, elſe they had died on the ſcaffold as traitors and rebels, and the period of our hiſtory, which does us the moſt honour, would have been deemed *rebellion* againſt lawful authority, not a reſiſtance authorized by all the laws of God and man, not the expulſion of a tyrant.

The policy, ſir, of this meaſure I can no more comprehend than I can acknowledge the juſtice of it. Is your force adequate to the attempt? I am ſatisfied it is not. What are your armies, and how are they to be recruited? Do you recollect that the ſingle province of the Maſſachuſetts Bay has at this moment above 30,000 men, well trained and diſciplined, and can bring near 90,000 into the field? They will do it when they are fighting for their liberties. You will not be able to conquer and keep even that ſingle province. The noble lord propoſes only 10,000 of our troops to be there, including the four regiments now going from Ireland; and he acknowledges, very truly, that the army cannot enforce the late acts of parliament. Why then is it ſent? Boſton, indeed, you may lay in aſhes, or it may be made a ſtrong garriſon; but the province will be loſt to you. Boſton will be like Gibraltar: You will hold in the province of Maſſachuſetts Bay, as you do in Spain, a ſingle town, the whole country in the power and poſſeſſion of the enemy. Your fleets and armies may keep a few towns on the coaſt, for ſome time at leaſt; Boſton, New York, St. Auguſtine. The vaſt continent of America will be loſt to you. A few fortreſſes on the coaſt, and ſome ſea ports only, will you keep; all the back ſettlements will be independent of you, will thrive in the rapid progreſſion of your violences and unjuſt exactions on the towns. The ancient ſtory of the Carthaginian hide will be verified as to you. Where you tread, it will be kept down, but it will riſe the more in all the other parts; where your fleets and armies are ſtationed, the poſſeſſion will be yours, but all the reſt will be loſt. I fear from this day, in the great ſcale of empire, you will decline, and the Americans will riſe to independence, to power, to all the greatneſs of the moſt renowned ſtates; for they build on the ſolid baſis of public liberty.

Sir, this addreſs is founded in injuſtice and cruelty; it is equally contrary to the ſound maxims of true policy, and to the unerring rule of natural right. The Americans will defend their property and their liberties with the ſpirit of freemen; with the ſpirit, I hope, we ſhould. They will ſooner declare themſelves independent, and riſk every conſequence of ſuch a conteſt, than ſubmit to the yoke which adminiſtration is preparing for them. An addreſs of ſo ſanguinary a nature cannot fail of driving them to deſpair. They will ſee that you are preparing not only to draw the ſword, but to burn the ſcabbard. You are declaring them rebels. Every idea of a reconciliation will vaniſh. They will purſue the moſt vigorous meaſures in their own defence. The whole continent will be diſmembered from Great Britain, and *the wide arch of the raiſed empire fall*. But I hope the juſt vengeance of the people will overtake the authors of theſe pernicious counſels, and the loſs of the firſt province to the empire be ſpeedily followed by the loſs of the heads of thoſe miniſters who adviſed theſe wicked and fatal meaſures.

LONDON, *March* 3.

YESTERDAY their majeſties came from Buckingham Houſe to Saint James's, where there was a court and drawing room, which was over at four o'clock, when their majeſties returned to the queen's palace to dinner.

His majeſty yeſterday morning took an airing on horſeback in Hide Park, and returned to the queen's houſe at eleven o'clock, and at noon their majeſties went to Saint James's,

After the drawing room was over yeſterday at Saint James's, the lords Gower, Denbigh, Suffolk, Darthmouth, Falmouth, and Barrington, had a conference with his majeſty.

Yeſterday colonel Wynyard kiſſed his majeſty's hand at Saint James's on his late promotion.

Yeſterday there was a board of admiralty at the office Charing Croſs.

Yeſterday the houſe of peers broke up at twenty minutes before five o'clock, and adjourned till this day.

The mutiny bill was read a third time yeſterday in the upper aſſembly, and paſſed.

There were ſixteen petitions for private bills preſented yeſterday to the upper houſe.

This day the houſe of commons will meet, purſuant to the adjournment on Wedneſday laſt.

The further conſideration of the American papers ſtands adjourned for this day in the houſe of commons.

The committee of ways and means, and committee of ſupply, ſtand likewiſe for this day in the lower houſe,

The laſt accounts from New York have flung the patriots on their backs, and it is now imagined that the different plans of the premier, which are intended to be put into execution, will meet with little or no oppoſition.

A correſpondent aſks, how the preſent meaſures can be reconciled with the well known piety of one great officer, the profeſſed benevolence of another, the good ſenſe of a third, and the timidity of the ----.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth a ſcrutiny was made into the number of inhabitants in the city of London, and its environs, but though there were found to be 1998 people of different nations interſperſed amongſt the natives of England, no more than 63 Scotchmen had at that period paſſed the Tweed. Innes

A correſpondent informs us, as a proof of the vaſt encreaſe of money in this kingdom, that the celebrated Alfred gave only one hundred pounds to his daughters, either for marriage portion or proviſion; ſo empty were the royal coffers in his day of power, ſplendor, and reputation.

Nothing can be a greater proof of the underſtanding, humanity, and feeling of a great perſonage, as well as his great affection for the meaneſt of his ſubjects, than his forming and promoting a ſcheme for preventing inſolvent debtors from ſtarving and rotting in a loathſome priſon. Nothing, ſurely, can be ſo unnatural and barbarous as to confine a fellow creature in a ſtinking gaol, without the neceſſaries of life, for no other reaſon than becauſe he is unfortunate. Is this becoming a chriſtian and an inhabitant of a civiliſed nation? No, ſurely, for ſuch barbarity cannot be equalled by the moſt ſavage people in the world. The puniſhment inflicted on a murderer is mercy when compared to this, for a period is ſoon put to his miſery; but that of the poor debtor is almoſt endleſs. It is evident, that, if mercileſs creditors were deprived of the power of exerciſing ſuch cruelty over their debtors, the number of each would, in a ſhort time, be very inſignificant. The conſequence of which would be, that honeſty and induſtry would be more prevailing than at preſent, for none but ſuch would connections be formed out of. The poor would not have it in their power then to pave the way to a priſon by running in debt; artful villains would not be tempting the unſuſpicious to their ruin; nor would the young and unthinking be ſo adventurous and enterpriſing as they are now. Every man would look before he leaped, and be cautious whom he truſted. Honour would be more binding than law, and thoſe who were unprincipled and imprudent enough to break that bond, would ever after experience puniſhment enough. None would have confidence enough in him, nor would aſſociate with him, which perhaps would induce him to commence highwayman for a livelihood, the conſequents of which would be the gallows, which ſoon make an end of ſuch a peſt to ſociety. It is therefore to be hoped the parliament will this ſeſſion fully complete what has been ſo nobly begun, which will be an immortaliſation of their names and a laſting advantage to their country.

Wedneſday night, about eleven o'clock, the lord mayor arrived at the manſion houſe, from Cricklade in Wiltſhire. He ſet out from that place on Tueſday aft.

The election of lord Pigot to the government of Madraſs gives every well-wiſher to the proſperity of the Eaſt India company the greateſt ſatisfaction, as Morgan has done more ſervices to that company, no man acquired a large fortune in the Eaſt with more honour, nor no man has made a better uſe of it ſince his return.

Wedneſday morning the ſtewards of the ſociety of Ancient Britons waited on the prince of Wales, to compliment him on its being the anniverſary of Sint David's day; when they received the uſual donation from his royal highneſs towards the ſupport of the charity children belonging to that ſociety. The whole collection amounted to 536 l. odd; a ſum infinitely larger than was ever collected on a ſimilar occaſion.

We are informed from the war office, that it is his majeſty's pleaſure that all officers abſent from regiments in North America do join their reſpective corps without delay, thoſe only excepted who are ordered on duty in this kingdom or in Ireland.

Extract of a letter from Leghorn, dated February 1.

"Advices from Tetuan of the 24th of December mention, that the real reaſon for which the emperor of Morocco declared war againſt Holland was, becauſe having aſked for ſome artificers from thence to carry on cannon foundries in his kingdom, he was anſwered, that there was none to be found who would go to ſo hot a climate as Africa."

Extract of a letter from Goſport, dated February 24.

"Orders are juſt come down for his majeſty's ſhip Cerberus, Captain Chads, to fit for Boſton, and ſhe is to carry three generals out. Captain Potter, who was appointed to the Nautilus ſloop, in the room of captain Parker, has declined it, on account of his being much indiſpoſed; therefore captain Collins is appointed to the command of her. Laſt night money came down to pay the Warwick, which lately came from the Eaſt-Indies. It is ſaid that the ſhips intended for Boſton are to be all at Spithead by the middle of next month. Remain at Spithead ſeven ſhips of war, and in the harbour eight."

Extract of a letter from Deal, dated February 23.

"The crew of the Fanny, captain Allen, bound to Africa, conſiſting of ten people, refuſed to proceed on their voyage (for what reaſon is not known) and hoiſted out the ſhip's boat laſt night, and rowed away, leaving the captain and mate on board, who, with the aſſiſtance of ſeveral men from Deal, &c. carried the ſhip ſafe into Ramſgate pier."

From Rome we have intelligence that the fine yacht which is to carry the Dutcheſs of Kingſton and her ſuit, to England, is arrived in the Tiber, where numbers of people go to ſee it. That lady, it is ſaid, will ſoon ſet out for London, to carry on her ſuit there, and then return hither again.

The following is the PETITION agreed to laſt Thurſday by the lord mayor, aldermen, and common council, of this city, and was preſented yeſterday to the houſe of commons, relative to the bill for reſtraining the trade and commerce of Maſſachuſetts Bay, &c.

"The humble petition of the lord mayor, aldermen, and commons, of the city of London, in common council aſſembled,

"Sheweth,

"That although your petitioners bear all due reſpect to the policy of thoſe acts of parliament which have anxiouſly preſerved to Great Britain a neceſſary and beneficial ſhare of commerce with our colonies, yet they are exceedingly alarmed at the conſequences that muſt enſue if the bill now depending in this honourable houſe ſhould paſs into a law, entitled "a bill to reſtrain the trade and commerce of Maſſachuſetts Bay and New Hampſhire, and colonies of Connecticut, and Rhode Iſland, and Providence Plantations, in North America, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh iſlands in the Weſt Indies, and to prohibit ſuch provinces and colonies from carrying on any fiſhery on the Banks of Newfoundland, or other places therein to be mentioned, under certain conditions; and for a time to be limited;" the ſaid bill, as your petitioners conceive, being unjuſtly founded, becauſe it involves the whole in the puniſhment intended for the ſuppoſed offences of a few.

"That it muſt, in its conſequences, overwhelm thouſands of his majeſty's loyal and uſeful ſubjects with the utmoſt poverty and diſtreſs; inaſmuch as they will be thereby deprived of the fiſheries, which are the natural means of ſupporting themſelves and families.

"That the extenſive commerce between Great Britain and her colonies will, by this bill, be greatly injured, as a capital ſource of remittance will be ſtopped, which will not only diſconnect the future commercial intercourſe between thoſe colonies and this country, but will eventually render them incapable of paying the large debts already due to the merchants of this city.

"That the utmoſt confuſion will probably enſue from enforcing this bill, if paſſed into a law, as it cannot be ſuppoſed that a great number of men, naturally hardy and brave, will quietly ſubmit to a law which will reduce them almoſt to famine, they not having within themſelves proviſions ſufficient for their ſubſiſtence.

"That it will induce the French to extend their fiſheries, and by that means encreaſe the wealth and ſtrength of our rivals in trade, to the great prejudice of this country.

"That your petitioners feel for the many hardſhips which their fellow ſubjects in America already labour under, from the execution of ſeveral late acts of parliament, evidently partial and oppreſſive, and which ſeem to be extended and continued by this bill; inaſmuch as it confirms thoſe acts, which in particular caſes deprives the American ſubject of trial by jury, prohibits the American from carrying proviſions from one colony to another, invites a contrabband trade under military protection, prevents any ſubject of Great Britain or Ireland from being part owner of certain American ſhips or veſſels, and veſts an undue and dangerous authority in the governor and council of Maſſachuſetts Bay.

"Your petitioners, therefore, humbly pray
this honourable houſe, that the ſaid bill
may not paſs into a law."

When the report was made laſt Thurſday in the lower aſſembly from the ſelect committee appointed to determine the Hindon election, a member moved to have the printed report read, which being complied with, he moved that the aſſembly ſhould agree with four of the reſolutions contained in the ſaid report, which were, in ſubſtance, that each of the four candidates, by their agents, had been guilty of bribery, which, after ſome debates, were agreed to; as was the fifth, that a clergyman and other perſons had been concerned in bribing the voters, either as agents or otherwiſe.

The following reſolution, which is the laſt, had the previous queſtion put on it, and being carried after a ſhort debate, the main queſtion of courſe had a negative put on it.

Reſolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that the houſe be moved for leave to bring in a bill to diſfranchiſe the ſaid borough of Hindon, in the county of Wilts.

A motion was propoſed, and queſtion put, that no writ be iſſued for electing two burgeſſes to ſerve in parliament for Hindon, in Wilts, for one month. This produced another debate, which continued till half after nine. The houſe divided, ayes, 84; noes 36.

The complaints made in the upper aſſembly laſt Friday was againſt a pamphlet entitled "the Preſent Criſis, with reſpect to America, conſidered;" which was declared to be a ſeditious libel, and the aſſembly reſolved that it ſhould be burnt by the common hangman, one of them in Old Palace yard, on the 6th of March, and another at the Royal Exchange, on the 7th of March, the ſheriffs of London attending. Theſe reſolutions are to be communicated this day to the lower aſſembly, to deſire their concurrence.

It is ſaid that the laſt letters from general Gage, dated January 18, contain very agreeable accounts that the minds of the people are cooling apace in that province, and they begin to wiſh for the opening of the courts of juſtice, and a more regular government than they have enjoyed for ſome months paſt. Aſſociations begin to be formed in the country, by reſpectable perſons, for the defence of their lives and properties, againſt the ſeditious and diſorderly. This is ſaid to be the ſubſtance of the laſt public letters from Boſton.

The 22d, 40th, 44th, and 45th regiments (which have been for ſome time talked of to embark next for America) have received orders for immediate embarkation, which makes the preſent reinforcement to conſiſt of one regiment of dragoons and ſeven of infantry.

A great perſonage has inſiſted that no colonel whatever, of any of the regiments intended for America, or at preſent there, ſhall ſtay from their corps.

Letters from Jamaica dated the 14th of December, mention, that upwards of fifty ſail of ſhips had already arrived there from London, Briſtol, Liverpool, and Lancaſter, all which had good paſſages, beſides a great many ſhips from North America.

A cargo of goods, landed out of a ſhip bound from London to Quebec, is burnt at Carbonear in Newfoundland.

On Friday came on, in the court of common pleas at Guildhall, before lord chief juſtice De Grey and a ſpecial jury, a cauſe betwen a timber merchant of London, plaintiff, and the lord of the manor for Wolwich, defendant, for detaining timber, which, by accident, had been carried adrift, and demanding a ſalvage of one third of the value; when it appearing clearly that he had no right to take poſſeſſion of the timber, it being under the juriſdiction of the lord mayor and city of London, or their water bailiff, the jury, without heſitation, gave in a verdict in favour of the plantiff, with coſts of ſuit. This is a very material determination in favour of the merchants and others, who are liable to a loſs from driftage.

The houſe of lords nominated managers yeſterday afternoon to direct a conference on their part, which was held with the deputation from the houſe of commons on the ſubject of the pamphlet publiſhed by T. Becket, and the commons agreed to the reſolutions of the upper houſe reſpecting it, by filling up the blanks with the words commons in parliament aſſembled; &c. In conſequence of this concurrence of the two houſes, the pamphlet will be burnt at the time and places mentioned in Monday's news.

A ſecond conference enſued, ariſing from a complaint which had been made in the houſe of commons of a periodical paper called the Criſis, number III. publiſhed on Saturday, February 4, 1775, for T. Shaw in Fleet-ſtreet. Lord Chewton moved in the houſe of commons that the ſaid paper is a falſe, malicious, and ſeditious libel, and that it ſhould be burnt by the hands of the common hangman, in Old Palace yard, on Monday next, which was unanimouſly carried; as alſo a motion for communicating theſe reſolutions to the lords at a conference, and deſiring their concurrence. While this was paſſing in the lower houſe, the ſame complaint and motion was made in the houſe of lords by lord Radnor, with this addition, that it is a treaſonable libel; and that this houſe do addreſs his majeſty that he would be pleaſed to order the attorney general to proſecute the writer and the publiſher. A debate aroſe upon the word *treaſonable*, and after a conference with the commons, the managers on the part of the lords having reported that the commons had only found it ſeditious, it was reſolved to ſummons the lords, and to take the matter into further conſideration this day.

A new writ is ordered to be iſſued out for electing a member for Worceſterſhire, in the room of William Dowdeſwell, eſquire, deceaſed.

This day the marquis of Granby comes of age, and which, we hear, will be celebrated at Cheveley, his lordſhip's ſeat near Newmarket, with great feſtivity and hoſpitality; after which his lordſhip will take his ſeat in parliament as one of the members for Cambridge.

The nobility, &c. are laying in ſtocks of French wines, which proves that they are apprehenſive of getting none by and by, and alſo that the report of war with France and Spain is not totally void of foundation.

When the laſt advices left Leghorn, eight Ruſſian men of war lying in the Mole were preparing to ſail for England, and are to touch on their return home the Ruſſian ports.

A correſpondent thinks it an odd circumſtance, that the Cerberus (whom the poets feign to be the three-headed dog that guards the mouth of Hell) ſhould be the ſhip appointed to carry over to America the three generals appointed to tame the Americans.

A letter from Jamaica mentions, that an Engliſh ſnow, captain Letcher, had lately arrived there from Saint Euſtatia; that in her paſſage, having met with a hurricane, ſhe was driven on the coaſt of South America; and on her attempting to enter the harbour of Carthagena, the guns from the fort fired on the ſnow; on which the captian immediately brought to, and was boarded by the crew of an armed ſchooner, who ſtripped captain Letcher of his coat, waiſtcoat,

and gold laced hat; on which a paſſenger addreſſed them in Spaniſh, and required to know their reaſon for ſuch inhoſpitable treatment: He recived for anſwer, that the Engliſh were no better than pirates; that the governor had ordered no Engliſh ſhip ſhould enter that port; and accordinly obliged the ſnow to tack about and ſtand out for ſea; although ſhe was in the utmoſt diſtreſs, and in great want of water, they refuſed to give her the leaſt aſſiſtance.

The following is an exact copy of the much talked of Bimingham petition ſent to the honourable houſe of commons. It has ſingly and ſolely for its object the true and permanent intereſt of the whole Britiſh Empire:

The humble petition of the inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood of Birmingham,

"Sheweth,

"THAT your petitioners are apprehenſive that any relaxation in the execution of the laws reſpecting the colonies of Great Britain, will ultimately tend to the injury of the commerce of this town and neighbourhood.

"Wherefore they humbly requeſt that this honourable houſe will continue to exert their endeavours to ſupport the authority of the laws of this kingdom over all the dominions of the crown."

The troops deſtined for America are now on their march for the ſeaports, where the tranſport veſſels are ready prepared to receive them; but we hear that they are in hourly expectation of orders to countermand this diſagreeable expedition.

A letter from New York, dated February 1, has the following paſſage: "On the receipt of the king's ſpeech, an Engliſhman was ſtanding in Rivington's ſhop, amongſt a croud of people, and being aſked what made him look ſo chearful, replied, becauſe I am not *yet* aſhamed of being born an Engliſhman; but had the *old lion crouched*, I would have hid my head in the remoteſt corner of the deſert."

Laſt Sunday evening as ſome perſons were going through Moorfields, a dog belonging to one of them was obſerved to ſcratch at a particular place, and his maſter could not get him from it; upon which they had the ground opened, when the body of an infant juſt buried was found, with its legs cut off and lying by the body.

On Tueſday a petition from Poole was preſented in favour of the bill for reſtraining the American commerce, and againſt the petition of the city of London; which was referred to a committee.

Tueſday night ſome diſpatches from America were received by expreſs at lord Dartmouth's office, which were brought over by the Rebecca, captain Saunders, arrived at Eaſon, from New York.

Advice is received that the empreſs queen, and ſome other neighbouring powers, have given immediate orders to repair and ſtrengthen all the frontier towns, giving it for a reaſon, "that when once his Pruſſian majeſty is on the march, it is hard to tell where he will ſtop; for, having a numerous army equipped and ready for the field, it was conjectured he had ſome important expedition in view."

A letter from Harwich mentions, that on Saturday laſt one of his majeſty's armed cutters took a large Dutch dogger laden with tea, coffee and Holland's geneva, off the Eſſex coaſt, and carried her into that port.

A ſhip lately arrived from South Carolina, brings advice that a very ſharp diſpute had happened between the baymen and the Spaniards, in the Bay of Honduras, in which many of the baymen were killed.

Orders are given for the tranſports which are to carry the troops to Boſton to take on board three months additional proviſions and ſtores; from whence it is imanaged their deſtination is farther to the ſouthward than is given out.

It is reported that part of the fleet now going to America will be deſtined to protect our merchant ſhips from the inſolence and depredations of the Spaniards.

It is currently reported that our ambaſſador at the Hague will be recalled, to occupy a very conſiderable American department.

In the proceedings on Monday laſt againſt the printer of the Public Ledger, for a libel on alderman Kennet, Mr. Serjeant Adair, counſel for the defendant, endeavoured to ſhew that the terms in which the libel was couched rendered it applicable to Mr. Wilkes, "who, argued the ſerjeant, being a candidate for the mayoralty, as well as Mr. Kennet, was to all intents and purpoſes, *a lord mayor would be*; and, as he was known to have no ſort of an averſion to the juice of the grape, the appellation of *alderman Claret*, was by no means an unſuitable deſignation of his character." lord Mansfield, after the delivery of his charge, took notice of this by obſerving, "that there was one deſcriptive deſignation in the libel, which precluded its application to the preſent worthy mayor, who amongſt all his other *excellencies*, had never yet *kept a tavern*".

Laſt week was imported into Liverpool one thouſand one hundred quarters of wheat and one hundred and eighty one barrels of flour from New York, alſo ſeven hundred and twenty five quarters of oats from Ireland.

Extract of a letter from the earl of Dunmore to the earl of Dartmouth, dated Williamſburg, December 24, 1774; laid before the houſe of common, February 15, 1775, by lord North.

MY neceſſary abſence on the occaſion of the Indian diſturbances, will, I hope, account and excuſe me for my not having acknowledged your lordſhip's ſeveral letters in due time and order; and for not having regularly communicated accounts of the public affairs of the colony, to which ſome of them refer; and I wiſh I were now ſo fortunate as to have it in my power to make a repreſentation of their appearing with a more favourable aſpect, than when I laſt wrote upon thoſe important concerns.

The aſſociations firſt, in part, entered into, recommended by the people of this colony, and adopted by what is called the continental congreſs, are now enforcing throughout this country, with the greateſt rigour. A committee has been choſen in every county, whoſe buſineſs it is to carry the aſſociation of the congreſs into execution; which committee aſſumes an authority to inſpect the books, invoices, and all other ſecrets of the trade and correſpondence of merchants; to watch the conduct of every inhabitant, without diſtinction; and to ſend for all ſuch as come under their ſuſpicion into their preſence, to interrogate them reſpecting all matters which, at their pleaſure, they think fit objects of their inquiry; and to ſtigmatiſe, as they term it, ſuch as they find tranſgreſſing, what they are now hardy enough to call the laws of the congreſs; which ſtigmatiſing is no other than inviting the vengance of an outrageous and lawleſs mob to be exerciſed upon the unhappy victims. Every county, beſides, is now arming a company of men, whom they call an independent company, for the avowed purpoſe of protecting their committees, and to be employed againſt government, if occaſion require. The committee of one county has proceeded ſo far as to ſwear the men of their independent company to execute all orders which ſhall be given them from the committee of their county.

As to the power of government which your lordſhip, in your letter of November 11, directs ſhould be exerted to counteract the dangerous meaſures purſuing here, I can aſſure your lordſhip that it is entirely diſregarded, if not wholly overturned. There is not a juſtice of peace in Virginia that acts, except as a committee man. The aboliſhing the courts of juſtice was the firſt ſtep taken, in which the men of fortune and pre-eminence joined equally with the loweſt and meaneſt. The general court of judicature of the colony is much in the ſame predicament, for though there are at leaſt a majority of his majeſty's council who, with myſelf, are the judges of that court, that would ſteadily perform their duty, yet the lawyers have abſolutely refuſed to attend, nor, indeed, would the people allow them to attend, or evidences to appear. The reaſon commonly aſſigned for this proceeding is, the want of a fee-bill, which expired at the laſt ſeſſion of aſſembly, and it is a popular argument here, that no power but the legiſlature can eſtabliſh fees; and the fee-bill not having been renewed, it is attributed to the diſſolution; but the true cauſe of ſo many perſons joining in ſo opprobrious a meaſure, was to engage their Engliſh creditors, who are numerous, to join in the clamours of this country, and not a few to avoid paying the debts in which many of the principal people here are much involved.

With regard to the encouraging of thoſe, as your lordſhip likewiſe exhorts me, who appeared, in principle, averſe to theſe proceedings, I hope your lordſhip will do me the juſtice to believe, I have left no means in my power unemployed to draw all the aſſiſtance poſſible from them to his majeſty's government, but I preſume your lordſhip will not think it very extraordinary that my perſuaſions ſhould have been unavailing againſt the terrors which, on the other hand, are held out by the committee.

Independent companies, &c. ſo univerſally ſupported, who have ſet themſelves up ſuperior to all other authority, under the auſpices of their congreſs, the laws of which they talk of in a ſtile of reſpect, and treat with marks of reverence, which they never beſtowed on their legal government, or the laws proceeding from it, I can aſſure your lordſhip, that I have diſcovered no inſtance where the interpoſition of government, in the feeble ſtate to which it is reduced, could ſerve any other purpoſe than to ſuffer the diſgrace of a diſappointment, and thereby afford matter of great exultation to its enemies, and encreaſe their influence over the minds of the people.

But, my lord, every ſhip which has been taken by theſe infatuated people muſt inevitably defeat its own purpoſe. Their non-importation, non-exportation, &c. cannot fail, in a ſhort time, to produce a ſcarcity, which will ruin thouſands of families. The people indeed of fortune may ſupply themſelves and their negroes for two or three years, but the middling and poorer ſort, who live from hand to mouth, have not the means of doing ſo, and the produce of their lands will not purchaſe thoſe neceſſaries (without which themſelves and negroes muſt ſtarve) of the merchants who may have goods to diſpoſe of, becauſe the merchants are prevented from turning ſuch produce to any account. As to manufacturing for themſelves, the people of Virginia are very far from being naturally induſtrious, and it is not by taking away the principal, if not the only encouragement to induſtry, that it can be excited; nor is it, in times of anarchy and confuſion, that the foundation of ſuch improvements can be laid. The lower claſs of people, too, will diſcover that they have been duped by the richer ſort, who, for their part, elude the whole effects of the aſſociation, by which their poor neighbours periſh. What then is to deter thoſe from taking the ſhorteſt mode of ſupplying themſelves, and, unreſtrained as they are by laws, from taking whatever they want wherever they can find it?

The arbitrary proceedings of theſe committees, likewiſe, cannot fail of producing quarrels and diſſenſions, which will raiſe partiſans of government; and, I am firmly perſuaded, that the colony, even by their own acts and deeds, muſt be brought to ſee the neceſſity of depending on its mother country, and of embracing its authority.

WILLIAMSBURG.

BY a ſhip lately arrived in a ſhort paſſage from Ireland we have the following agreeable intelligence: That the miniſtry are gradually relaxing, and matters reſpecting America begin to wear a more chearful aſpect on the other ſide of the Atlantic, and that the two houſes of parliament were to have a free conference to debate on the propriety of adopting a plan of accommodation between GREAT BRITAIN and the AMERICAN STATES, propoſed by the immortal lord CHATHAM; to which, it was generally ſuppoſed, they would accede. The captain farther informs, that the tranſports which were bound for America, and had been ſent over to Ireland to victual, were ordered to wait for farther orders. The joy and acclamations of the people of Ireland, he ſaid, were ſcarcely to be expreſſed, on the reception of this pleaſing information. We are the rather induced to ſuppoſe that there is ſome truth in this intelligence, from a paragraph or two in a London paper, bearing date the 26th of February, under the head of parliamentary proceedings, wherein it was aſſerted that a reſolution of the committee for American affairs was read, that the parliament ſhould forbear taxing the Americans, and give them leave to tax themſelves, which was carried by a very great majority. Lord CHATHAM leaves nothing undone, that a great ſoul and able head can deviſe, to procure an honourable and ſpeedy reconciliation. What reverence and reſpect is due from mankind to that incomparable ſtateſman, who has ſo long and ſo glorioufly ſupported the cauſe of liberty! His adored memory ſhall ever remain enthroned in the hearts of the friends to liberty, virtue, and mankind.

The CRISIS, JUNIUS, and many other papers, are daily publiſhed in London, againſt the bloody court, bloody miniſtry, and bloody parliament, and in courſe in favour of America.

ARRIVALS. The Molly, Bell, from Liverpool, and the Randolph, M'Nabb, from London, in James river; the Tom, Clarke, from Liverpool, the Mary, Miller, and the Virginia, Arthurs, from London, in York river.

MARRIAGES. Mr. JOHN GORDON, of Prince George, to Miſs LUCY POYTHRESS, of the ſame county, a very amiable young lady.

How happy they! the happieſt of their kind!
Whom gentler ſtars unite, and in one fate
Their hearts, their fortunes, and their beings blend!

THOMPSON.

Gawin Corbin, eſquire, is appointed one of his majeſty's honourable council for this colony, in the room of the honourable John Page, eſquire, deceaſed.

We would not willingly offend the author of LECTUM III; but on account of the many arrivals this week we have received ſo much intelligence, and our paper being ſo ſmall, are the reaſons why we cannot comply with the requeſt of that gentleman. Next week's paper, however, if he chuſes, ſhall poſitively contain his third letter.

AT a meeting of the committee of the county of Glouceſter, at the courthouſe of the ſaid county, on Monday the third of April, 1775, WARNER LEWIS, *eſquire, was unanimouſly elected chairman. The reſolves of the convention held at the town of Richmond, the 20th of March, 1775, were read, and unanimouſly approved of.*

Reſolved, that the thanks of this committee be preſented to THOMAS WHITING *and* LEWIS BURWELL, *eſquires, our worthy delegates, for their faithful diſcharge of the important truſt repoſed in them.*

It being late before a ſufficient number of members aſſembled to proceed upon buſineſs, the committee adjourned to Tueſday the 25th inſtant.

TUESDAY April 25, 1775. *The committee met according to adjournment, and entered into the following reſolves.*

Reſolved, that, as an encouragement to the manufacturing gun-powder in this colony, we will give a premium of TWENTY FIVE POUNDS *to any perſon who ſhall produce to the chairman of this committee, on or before the 25th of October next,* THREE HUNDRED POUNDS *of good* GUNPOWDER, *made in Virginia, which we will purchaſe at the common price of that commodity; and if it ſhall be proved to be made wholly of the materials of this colony, we will give an additional premium of* TEN POUNDS.

Reſolved, that we will give FIFTY POUNDS *to any perſon who ſhall produce to the chairman of this committee* SIXTY PAIR *of good* WOOL, *and* SIXTY PAIR *of good* COTTON CARDS, *on or before the 25th of October next, with an authentic certificate of their having been made in this colony; and we will purchaſe the ſame at the uſual price.*

The committee having received authentic information, that laſt Thurſday night an officer of one of his majeſty's armed veſſels, with a party of armed men, by expreſs command of lord DUNMORE, *privately removed the* GUNPOWDER *belonging to this colony out of the magazine,* IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED, *that the removal of the* POWDER *from the public magazine on board one of his majeſty's armed veſſels, by order of the governor, is exceedingly alarming at this time.*

Reſolved, that his lordſhip's verbal anſwer to the addreſs of the mayor, recorder, aldermen, and common council, of the city of Williamſburg, is unſatisfactory, diſreſpectful, and evaſive.

Reſolved, that his lordſhip, by this and other parts of his conduct which have lately tranſpired, has juſtly forfeited all title to the confidence of the GOOD PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

RESOLVED, that the POWDER *ought* IMMEDIATELY *to be reſtored.*

Ordered, that the clerk ſend, by expreſs, copies of theſe RESOLVES *to each of the printers, and they are deſired to publiſh them in their next gazettes.*

JASPER CLAYTON, *clerk.*

By his excellency the right honourable JOHN *earl of* DUNMORE, *his majesty's lieutenant and governor general of the colony and dominion of* VIRGINIA, *and vice admiral of the same:*

A PROCLAMATION.

VIRGINIA, to wit.

WHEREAS the GENERAL ASSEMBLY ſtands prorogued to the firſt *Thurſday* in the next month, but it is judged expedient that they be farther prorogued, I have therefore thought fit, by and with the advice of the council, by this proclamation, in his majeſty's name, to prorogue the ſaid aſſembly to the firſt *Thurſday* in *September* next.

GIVEN under my hand, and the ſeal of the colony, at Williamſburg, *this 28th day of April, in the 15th year of his majeſty's reign.* DUNMORE.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 28, 1775.

ALL perſons concerned in the caveat buſineſs are deſired to take notice that nothing will be done therein next *June*, on account of the neceſſary abſence of the governor at that time.

By order of his excellency in council.

JOHN BLAIR, Cl. Con.

To all HEADBOROUGHS *and* CONSTABLES *within his majeſty's colonies and dominions to whom theſe preſents ſhall come.*

Pittſylvania county, ſc.

WHEREAS *Joſias Cook*, of this county, made oath this day before me, one of his majeſty's juſtices of the peace, that on the 16th of *March* he was robbed of *Nathaniel Matthews*, a mulatto, about 12 years old, ſome time in that month, and that he believes *John Fraxer*, *Thomas Owen*, and *Henry Stone*, to be guilty of the ſame: Therefore, in his majeſty's name, I charge and command you, and every of you, in your ſeveral precincts, to ſearch diligently for the ſaid perſons, and to make hue and cry, from town to town, and from county to county, as well by horſemen as footmen, and if you ſhall find the perſon or perſons by whom the ſaid robbery was committed, or whom you ſhall have juſt cauſe to ſuſpect thereof, that then you apprehend and bring him or them, and alſo the boy if he be found, before a juſtice of the county where taken, to be dealt with as the law directs. The owner offers a reward of forty ſhillings for the boy, and three pounds for the boy and thief; for as the boy is only bound until he is 31 years of age, it may be ſuppoſed they will ſell him as a ſlave. Given under my hand and ſeal this 18th day of *March*, 1775.

3° JOHN WILSON.

NORTHUMBERLAND *and* LANCASTER, *April* 19, 1775.

THIS is to give notice to all gentlemen ſhippers of tobacco, from *Indian* and *Dymer*'s warehouſes, that we will not deliver any tobacco without the inſpection money, with the notes. We will not take dollars at ſix ſhillings, nor any paper money. We are your humble ſervants,

FORTUNATUS SYDNOR,
JAMES KIRK.

N. B. I ſhall be glad that all perſons who have any claims againſt the eſtate of *William King*, deceaſed, to let them be known, and thoſe indebted to the ſaid eſtate to make payment to

2 FORTUNATUS SYDNOR, adminiſtrator.

ROBERDEAU AND JACKSON

HAVE FOR SALE, AT THEIR NEW DISTILLERY, IN THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA, ON THE RIVER POTOWMACK, IN THE COLONY OF VIRGINIA.

ALEXANDRIA RUM,

WHICH they engage to be equal in quality, ſtrength, agreeableneſs of ſmell, and good flavour, to any made on this continent. They will be much obliged to the vendors of that article for their cuſtom, which they hope to merit, as well by the goodneſs of their RUM, the moderate profit they deſign to ſell at, as their conſtant endeavour to give general ſatisfaction.

*** They propoſe to ſell for caſh only, or country produce, delivered at the DISTILLERY.

DUMFRIES, *April* 6, 1775.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, living in *Dumfries*, two convict ſervant men, juſt imported from *London* in the *Juſtitia*, captain *Kidd*, lying at *Leadſtown*: WILLIAM PEARCE, a ſtout, likely fellow, 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, with red hair; he has a fair complexion, tolerably well dreſſed, and is about 25 years of age. RALPH EMANUEL, about 6 feet high, ſtrong made, and likely; he has dark-iſh coloured hair, is well dreſſed, has a chocolate coloured ſurtout coat, with a red cape, a ſmall hat, bound round with ferret, and a black band round the crown; he is about 22 years of age. They left the company in which they were travelling, a few miles above *Leadſtown*, and will certainly endeavour to paſs for ſailors. To thoſe uſed to the ſmell of ſervants juſt from a ſhip they will be eaſily diſcovered, unleſs they have procured new cloaths. I will give SIX POUNDS for ſecuring, or TEN POUNDS for bringing, both home, and half for each. ANDREW LEITCH.

*** All maſters of ſhips are forbid harbouring them at their peril. 3

COMMITTED to the gaol of *Henrico* county a negro man named AARON, who ſays he belongs to Mr. *Thomas Bruce*, of *Lancaſter* county, and was hired to Mrs. *Parmer*, or *Palmer*, of the ſame county. He is about 5 feet 7 inches high, of a yelloviſh complexion, and has on an osnabrig ſhirt, a white negro cotton jacket and breeches, and a coarſe country made hat; he has alſo another hat, which is not finiſhed. The owner is deſired to prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. 3ſ THE GAOLER.

SYPHAX

STANDS at the ſubſcriber's, in *James City* county, and will cover this ſeaſon at 30s. the leap, 1l. 5s. the ſeaſon, or 2l. to enſure a live foal. He is in high perfection, a beautiful bay, 7 years old this ſpring, 15 hands and an inch high, and is full blooded; he was got by the noted old horſe *Janus*, out of an imported mare. Good paſturage gratis, but will not be liable for any that may get away. 2° JOHN WALKER and company.

RICHMOND, *April* 4, 1775.

I SHALL LEAVE THE COLONY IN A FEW WEEKS.

3 p t JAMES WATT.

WILLIAMSBURG, *April* 15, 1775.

THE ſubſcribers having this day entered into partnerſhip, beg leave to acquaint the public in general, and their friends and neighbours in particular, that they intend practiſing PHYSIC and SURGERY to their fulleſt extent, and that they intend alſo, as ſoon as the ſituation of the times will admit, to keep full and compleat aſſortments of drugs and medicines, which they will endavour to procure of the very beſt in quality, and will take care to have them freſh, by making ſeveral importations in the year. It is propoſed that *John M. Galt* ſhall pay his particular attention to ſurgery, to whom our friends are deſired to apply on all ſuch occaſions, but will be adviſed and aſſiſted by *W. Paſteur* in all difficult caſes. They both deſire to make their moſt grateful acknowledgments to their friends and cuſtomers for the many favours and civilities they have received, and hope by this union they will be enabled to carry on their buſineſs to the entire ſatisfaction of their friends, as on their part the ſtricteſt aſſiduity and attention ſhall be obſerved. 3 PASTEUR AND GALT.

VIRGINIA, ſc.

AT A GENERAL COURT, HELD AT THE CAPITOL APRIL 19, 1775.

ON the motion of his majeſty's attorney general, it is ORDERED, that where the juſtices of the examining court in the county ſhall be of opinion that any criminal ought to be tried in this court, or at the court of oyer and terminer, and that he or ſhe is not bailable, the ſheriff forthwith remove ſuch criminal to the public gaol, to prevent eſcapes out of the county priſon; that the clerk of ſuch court return the proceedings and depoſitions againſt the priſoner to the attorney general by the ſheriff, when ſuch criminal ſhall be removed; that the witneſſes on behalf of the crown, againſt criminals, attend the attorney general the day before their trials; that ſuch of the ſaid witneſſes as fail to appear according to their recognizances be proſecuted thereon; and that this order be publiſhed in the *Virginia* gazette. 3 BEN: WALLER.

To be SOLD by the ſubſcriber, at her STORE in WILLIAMSBURG,

A large and well choſen ASSORTMENT of

GOODS,

WHICH CONSIST AS FOLLOW:

MINIONET and blond lace and edgings, white ſattin and luſtring, a great variety of black, white, and other coloured ſilk petticoats, patent net aprons and hoods, ſuperfine fancy and dreſs caps, ſtomachers and knots, tambour muſlin, waiſtcoats, and ſword knots, white, coloured, and raw ſilk ſtockings, brown thread and cotton ditto, black ſilk ditto, cane and ſilk hats, *French* flowers for trimming ditto, ſilk gloves and mits, leather and brown thread ditto, fine ſtamped *Iriſh* muſlins for ladies gowns, which are remarkable for their beautiful colours, ſalmon coloured, plain, and ſtriped dimities, ſilk and lawn pocket handkerchiefs, ladies riding hats and feathers, black and coloured gauze handkerchiefs, ſilk purſes, wire, gauze, ribband, and catgut, boys caps and feathers, *India* cotton for work, rolls and curls, childrens ſhoes and ſtockings, ſattin cloaks and ferezeas, fans, garnet ſet in gold, plain gold and paſte broaches and lockets, ſet combs, paſte bows, croſſes, ſprigs, and pins, plain, gold, paſte, and ſilver ſtockbuckles, marcaſite and paſte necklaces and earrings, gold wires, diamond and other pencils, ſilver bowed ſciſſars, and *French* ſheaths, thimbles, watch chains, lancet caſes, ſilver ſhoe claſps, tea tongs, ſalt ſhovels, a ſilver teaſpoon tray and papboat, an exceeding good ſilver watch to be ſold at 50 *per cent.* mens fine hats, and *Didſbury*'s ſhoes, boxes of printing types and ink for marking books and linen, black, pinchbeck, and ſilver ſhoebuckles, aſſes ſkin memorandum books, *Morocco* pocket ditto, pocket knives and forks, pruning and pen ditto, a ſecond hand guittar, childrens ſtays and ſaſhes, watch ſeals, keys and ſtrings, black bags and roſes, tureen and punch ladles, ſword canes, ſticks and rattans, ſwan ſkin and ſilk powder puffs, tooth bruſhes and picktooth caſes, a large quantity of *Iriſh* linen, with ſome table cloths and towels, waſh balls, a few dozen of neat flowered wine glaſſes, patent blacking, dolls and other toys, with many other articles. C. RATHELL.

As I purpoſe going to *England* as ſoon as I diſpoſe of my goods, and remain there until liberty of importation is allowed, puts me under the neceſſity of not parting with a ſingle ſhilling's worth, without caſh; and I requeſt, as a favour, that all who are indebted to me will pay off their accounts this meeting, and any perſon who has any demands againſt me are deſired to apply directly.

N. B. At the ſame place may be had a parcel of LOAF SUGAR.

TO BE SOLD, IN AMHERST COUNTY,

ABOUT 4000 acres of exceeding good tobacco LAND, being part of a larger tract formerly advertiſed, together with a very valuable GRIST MILL, upon *Buffalo* river. This land is equal to any that has yet been ſold of the tract. The time of payment will be made agreeable to purchaſers. Mr. *Gabriel Penn*, who lives near the land, is authorized to bargain for it, and will ſhew it to any perſons inclinable to purchaſe. t f CARTER BRAXTON.

INDIAN FIELDS, *April* 11, 1775.

FOR SALE,

THE BRICKHOUSE, and its APPURTENANCES, near the capitol, in *Williamſburg*, belonging to the daughters of the late *John Palmer*. For terms apply to me, in *Charles City*. 4 JOHN TYLER.

To be ſold, at public ſale, on Monday *the* 22*d of* May, *being* Frederickſburg *fair*,

THREE LOTS of GROUND, being part of the public ſquare in the center of the town, adjoining that whereon the markethouſe is built. Each lot will contain 55 feet front on the main ſtreet, and extend 132 feet back. The terms of payment will be made known on the day of ſale.

3° WILLIAM DAINGERFIELD, MICHAEL ROBINSON, } churchwardens.

SUSSEX county, *April* 10, 1775.

THESE are to certify all whom it may concern, that in *October*, 1773, the ſubſcriber employed a certain *David Northington* to waggon two hogſheads of tobacco for him to *Warwickſqueak Bay* warehouſe, and that he has ſince made application to the inſpectors for notes for the ſame, and finds on their books two hogſheads of tobacco poſted and booked in the ſubſcriber's name; the numbers and weights are as follow: Number 53, groſs 1070, tare 99, nett 971; number 56, groſs 1128, tare 110, nett 1018. They appear to have been inſpected the 1ſt day of *October*, 1773, and the inſpectors alledge that they gave out notes for the ſame to the perſon who carried them to the ſaid warehouſe. I do therefore forewarn all perſons from purchaſing the notes for the ſaid tobacco (if any ſuch) as I never gave orders for them to be delivered to any perſon who might diſpoſe of them, and the tobacco is ſtill the property of

3 THOMAS STOKES, junior.

RICHMOND, *April* 13, 1775.

WHEREAS I intend to leave this colony in a ſhort time, and being willing to give all the ſatisfaction in my power to my creditors, I have executed a deed, and made over in truſt, to *Robert Burton* and *Andrew Chalmer*, of this place, and *Anderſon Peters*, of *Goochland* county, all my effects, and the remainder of the debts due to me for tranſactions at this place, and alſo of thoſe due for tranſactions with *Anſelm George*, at the ſtore lately kept by him on my account at *Giles Harding*'s, in *Goochland* county, after ſatisfying an aſſignment on the books made to *John M'Keand*, on the 18th of *March* laſt, for £. 343 18 7 currency; I therefore deſire all ſuch of my creditors who are willing to accede to, and receive any benefit from, the ſaid deed of truſt, to bring in their reſpective claims to the ſaid truſtees, properly authenticated, on or before the firſt day of *June* next, as after that time they cannot be admitted.

ARCHIBALD M'KENDRICK.

*** ALL perſons indebted to Mr. *Archibald M'Kendrick* are hereby requeſted to be as ſpeedy as poſſible in making payment, or otherwiſe to adjuſt their accounts, and grant ſpecialties for their reſpective balances, that we may be enabled to ſettle his affairs as ſoon as poſſible; and ſuch of his creditors who are willing to comply with the terms mentioned above are deſired to give in a note of their claims to the ſubſcribers, who will attend in *Williamſburg* at the enſuing meeting of the merchants.

ROBERT BURTON,
3 ANDREW CHALMER.

ROMULUS,

A BEAUTIFUL ſorrel, well formed, and active, 4 years old this ſpring, ſtands at the late dwelling of doctor *Torborn*, of *Charles City*, near the *Indian Fields*, and will cover mares at ten ſhillings the leap, and thirty ſhillings the ſeaſon, or a barrel of corn the leap, and three barrels the ſeaſon. He was got by *Mark Anthony*, on *Pompadour*, who was got by old *Valiant*, on *Jenny Cameron*, an imported mare. 3 PETER DUN.

WILLIAMSBURG, FRIDAY EVENING, eight o'clock.

OUR paper was entirely prepared for the preſs; but juſt as we were going to publiſh it we were informed of the arrival, in York river, of the ſnow Martin, captain Wood, in ſix weeks from Liverpool, by whom we received papers as late as the 11th of March, from which we have only time to ſelect the following intelligence.

LONDON, *March* 11.

HOUSE of COMMONS, *March* 9. This day the expectation of all men, both within doors and without, were wound up to the higheſt pitch, it being whiſpered for ſome days paſt, by thoſe who pretend to be in the ſecret, that the miniſter intended to propoſe a bill that would at once charm his friends, confound his enemies, and pleaſe the people on both ſides the Atlantic. After the benches had been all crouded, a ſilence of ſome minutes enſued, and up roſe the miniſter, not to open his grand conciliating plan, but to extend the powers of his New England reſtraining bill to the other principal provinces on the American continent. He ſaid, that as the colonies were come to an agreement to carry on no trade whatever with Great Britain, Ireland, or the Weſt Indies, he was clearly of opinion that it became indiſpenſably neceſſary to reſtrain commerce, and prevent them from trading with any other country. He therefore made the following motion, "that the chairman be directed to move the houſe that leave be given to bring in a bill to reſtrain the trade and commerce of the colonies of New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, Maryland, Virginia, and South Carolina,* to Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh iſlands in the Weſt Indies, under certain conditions and limitations." After a ſhort debate, a bill was ordered in.

Fourteen ſail of the line, with ten thouſand troops, we are credibly informed, were to embark for America about the firſt of this inſtant, April.

* *It appears that the province of New-York, whoſe aſſembly hath refuſed not to abide by the reſolutions of the congreſs, is not included in this reſtraining bill.*

NEW YORK, *April* 13.

THE following letter, dated January 30, 1775, came by the Earl of Dunmore, captain Lawrence, juſt arrived from London: "From unqueſtionable authority I learn, that about a fortnight ago, diſpatches were ſent from hence by a ſloop of war to general Gage, containing, among other things, a royal proclamation, declaring the inhabitants of Maſſachuſetts Bay, and ſome others in the different colonies, actual rebels; with a blank commiſſion to try and execute ſuch of them as he can get hold of; with this is ſent a liſt of names to be inſerted in the commiſſion, as he may judge expedient. I do not know them all, but Meſſieurs Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Payne, and John Hancock, of Maſſachuſetts Bay; John Dickenſon, of Philadelphia; Peyton Randolph, of Virginia; and Henry Middleton of South Carolina, are particularly named, with many others.

"This black liſt the general will, no doubt, keep to himſelf, and unfold it gradually, as he finds it convenient. Four regiments from Ireland, one of them light dragoons, are under ſailing orders for Boſton, with ſeveral capital ſhips of war, from hence, and ſix cutters to obſtruct the American trade, and prevent all European goods from going there, particularly arms and ammunition, which makes it expedient, without a moment's delay, to be provided with ſuch things as you may want. Laſt Friday night, the 27th inſtant, in a privy council, the American meaſures were all ſettled by the miniſtry; part of them is, to paſs an act of parliament inflicting pains and penalties on particular perſons and provinces in America, to countenance the infamous proclamation and commiſſion already ſent to general Gage; alſo it is determined to take away the charters of Rhode Iſland and Connecticut. I have not been able to learn the whole; though in general, I am informed, it is denouncing utter deſtruction to American liberty. Depend upon all this to be fact."

PHILADELPHIA, *April* 19.

VARIOUS accounts having been given of lord North's motion for the relief of the colonies, the following, we preſume, may be depended upon as truly authentic.

From the MIDDLESEX JOURNAL of *February* 21.

Yeſterday the commons reſolved itſelf into a committee of the whole houſe, for the farther conſideration of American papers and affairs, when a motion, moſt unexpected without doors, but for which the members had been prepared by cards deſiring their attendance, was made by lord North, for adopting conciliatory meaſures with America; and the following may be depended upon as an authentic copy of the above motion.

That it is the opinion of this committee, that when the general council and aſſembly, or general court of any of his majeſty's provinces or colonies in America ſhall propoſe to make proviſion, according to the condition, circumſtance or ſituation of ſuch province or colony, for contributing their proportion to the common defence (ſuch proportion to be raiſed under the authority of the general court or aſſembly of ſuch province, and diſpoſable by parliament) and ſhall engage to make proviſion alſo for the ſupport of the civil government, and the adminiſtration of juſtice, in ſuch province or colony, it will be proper, if ſuch propoſal ſhall be approved by his majeſty and the two houſes of parliament, and for ſo long as ſuch proviſion ſhall be made accordingly, to forbear in reſpect of ſuch colony to lay any duty, tax or aſſeſſment, except only ſuch duties as it may be expedient to continue to levy or impoſe for the regulation of commerce; the net produce of the duties laſt mentioned to be carried to the account of ſuch province or colony reſpectively. On a diviſion 274 for the motion, 88 againſt it.

The following is another account of lord North's motion.

"Lord North moved for a ſuſpenſion of the ſeveral American acts, until it ſhould be known which of the provinces would agree to raiſing of a revenue, and to the acknowledgement of the ſupremacy of the Britiſh legiſlature. Such of the provinces as did thus agree, were to be permitted to raiſe the revenue in the mode moſt ſuitable to themſelves, but in the colonies ſtill refractory, the ſeveral acts were to be rigorouſly enforced."

APRIL 24. An expreſs arrived at 5 o'clock this evening, by which we have the following intereſting advices.

WATERTOWN, *New England*, WEDNESDAY *morning*, 10 *o'clock*.

TO all friends of American liberty, be it known, that this morning, before break of day, a brigade, conſiſting of about 1000 or 1200 men, landed at Phipp's farm, at Cambridge, and marched to Lexington, where they found a company of our colony militia in arms, upon whom they fired without any provocation, and killed 6 men, and wounded 4 others. By an expreſs from Boſton we find another brigade are now upon their march from Boſton, ſuppoſed to be about 1000. The bearer, Trail Briſſel, is charged to alarm the country quite to Connecticut, and all perſons are deſired to furniſh him with freſh horſes, as they be needed. I have ſpoken with ſeveral, who have ſeen the dead and wounded. Pray let the delegates from this colony to Connecticut ſee this; they know colonel Forſter, one of the delegates. J. PALMER, one of the committee.

A true copy from the original, per order of the committee of correſpondence of Worceſter, April, 1775. Atteſted and forwarded by the committees of Brookline, Norwich, New London, Lyme, Saybrook, Killingſworth, E. Guilford, Guilford, Brandford, Newhaven.

FAIRFIELD, *Saturday*, *April* 22, 8 *o'clock*.

Since the above written, we have received the following by a ſecond expreſs.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock, A. M.

SIR,

I am this moment informed by an expreſs from Woodſtock, taken from the mouth of the expreſs, then two of the clock, afternoon, that the conteſt between the firſt brigade that marched to Concord was ſtill continuing this morning at the town of Lexington, to which ſaid brigade had retreated, and that another brigade had, ſaid to be the ſecond mentioned in the letter of this morning, landed with a quantity of artillery, at the place where the firſt did. The provincials were determined to prevent the two brigades from joining their ſtrength, if poſſible, and remain in great need of ſuccour.

N. B. The regulars when in Concord, burnt the courthouſe, took two pieces of cannon, which they rendered uſeleſs, and began to take up Concord bridge, on which captain------(who, with many on both ſides, were ſoon killed) made an attack upon the king's troops, on which they retreated to Lexington.

To colonel Ob. Johnſon, I am,

EB. WILLIAMS.

P. S. Mr. M'Farlan, of Plainfield, merchant, has juſt returned from Boſton, by way of Providence, who converſed with an expreſs from Lexington, who further informs, that 4000 of our troops had ſurrounded the firſt brigade above mentioned, who were on a hill in Lexington, that the action continued, and there were about 50 of our men killed, and 150 of the regulars, as near as they could determine, when the expreſs came away; it will be expedient for every man to go who is fit and willing.

The above is a true copy, as received per expreſs from New Haven, and atteſted to by the committee of correſpondence from town to town.

Atteſt. Jonathan Sturgis, Andrew Rowland, Thaddius Burr, Jeb Bartram, of the committee.

The above was received yeſterday, at 4 o'clock, by the committee of New York, and forwarded to Philadelphia by ISAAC LOW, chairman of the committee at New York.

FORTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away from the ſubſcriber, on the 19th inſtant, at night, two ſervant men, viz. THOMAS SPEARS, a joiner, born in *Briſtol*, about 20 years of age, 5 feet 6 inches and an half high, ſlender made. He has light grey or blueiſh coloured eyes, a little pock marked, and freckled, with ſandy coloured hair, cut ſhort; his voice is coarſe, and ſomewhat drawling. He took with him a coat, waiſtcoat, and breeches, of light brown duffil, with black horn buttons, a light coloured cloth waiſtcoat, old leather breeches, check and oznabrig ſhirts, a pair of new milled yarn ſtockings, a pair of old ribbed ditto, new oznabrig trowſers, and a felt hat, not much the worſe for wear. WILLIAM WEBSTER, a brickmaker, born in *Scotland*, and talks pretty broad. He is about 5 feet 6 inches high, and well made, rather turned of 30, with light brown hair, and roundiſh face. He had an olive coloured coat, pretty much worn, with black horn buttons, duffil waiſtcoat and breeches (ſame as *Spears*'s) oznabrig trowſers, and check and oznabrig ſhirts. They went off in a ſmall yaul, with turpentine ſides and bottom, the inſide painted with a mixture of tar and red lead. Maſters of veſſels are cautioned againſt receiving of them; and the above reward is offered to any perſon who will deliver them at my dwellinghouſe, in this county, or TWENTY DOLLARS for each, from GEORGE WASHINGTON.

FAIRFAX county, *April* 23, 1775. 2

WILLIAMSBURG.
PRINTED BY JOHN PINKNEY.